



THE COLONNADE

The Official Student Newspaper of Georgia College

SOFTBALL SPOTLIGHT

GC Softball mixes experience with youth.
See page 7 for more details.

Photo by Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

Spring Study Abroad Fair, pg. 3

Muse sparks creativity, pg. 10

Sassy Cats rank nationally, pg. 9



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About This Issue...

The News section covers students' efforts to have a traffic light installed at the entrance to West Campus, a GC alumnae who is helping the Baldwin County community eat healthier foods and the recent summer study abroad mini fair.

The Sports section highlights the softball team as they prepare for the upcoming season, as well as the GC Sassy Cats' award-winning performance at a national competition.

The A&E section features Luke Travis' new monthly event at

Blackbird, Muse, and blogger and speaker Jordan Lee's visit to Milly. Also, discover some new winter comfort foods, complete with recipes.

In addition, check out the new editorial section.

Join us for pitch at 6:30pm on Mondays in the Colonnade office, located in MSU 128.

Pictured on the cover: Danielle Bernstein, Baylee Hall, Faith Flanders, Emily Robertson, and Jessica Hayles

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Roofing and construction at the Max concludes

Kellie
Murphy
@gcsunade

Construction near the Bobcat Food Court and between the Max and Parks Hall has caused some confusion among GC students whose paths to class and the cafeteria have been blocked in recent weeks.

“It’s a huge amount of construction,” said Michael Rickenbaker, university architect. “We’re just finishing up.”

Rickenbaker said the roofs needed to be replaced and a central air conditioning system has been installed.

The new air system is more energy efficient than standard air conditioning because it runs off of large chilled water tanks and reaches just about every building on main campus. The new air conditioning system, a \$3 million project, has already been put to use this semester.

Along with the air conditioning and the roof construction at the Max, GC is renovating Beeson Hall. Several departments, including physics and geography, are expected to move into the renovated building.

“The construction doesn’t really bother me other than the fact that it cuts off the side of A&S, so it cuts off the pathway I use to walk to class everyday,” said junior Jordan Adicks.

Other students, like Alex Kimble, said they actually enjoy the construction.

“I feel like I’m New York when I walk under the scaffolding,” Kimble said. “And the trash chute by the library looks like a slide that I want to go down, so yeah, it doesn’t bother me really.”

Rickenbaker explained why the construction is happening now and not in the summer when campus is vacant.

“You can’t do roofing in the summer



Pierce Maugans/ Staff Photographer

Advancement construction is taking place on Georgia College’s campus.

because your window of opportunity is reduced by as much as a half because of the temperature,” Rickenbaker said. “You get problems with the heat index, you can’t have people on a roof working when it gets to 110 degrees on a roof.”

The re-roofing was begun as soon as final exams were over in Dec. 2016, but because the break was short and rain delays impeded the workers’ progress, the project is just now wrapping up. Rickenbaker said the construction will be completed soon.

Study abroad fair exhibits summer programs

Maddy
Stone
@gcsunade

Every summer, Georgia College provides many opportunities for students to study abroad. On Feb. 25, the International Education Center held a study abroad mini fair in the bottom floor of the Russell Library to inform students about the summer 2017 trips that still have open spots.

In addition to many European Council trips, four GC-led trips still have spaces available, with destinations in Chile, London, Paris, India and Tanzania. The European Council provides trips outside of what is offered through GC. Students can check out the European Council’s website for more details.

“I went on the Paris-Amsterdam trip the summer of 2015,” said Caroline Galphin, senior and mass communication major. “I am studying Art History, so this trip was a great way for me to see the artwork up

close and personal.”

This summer, Sandra Godwin, a GC professor of government and sociology, is leading a month-long trip to India where students will spend time in New Delhi and Mumbai, India’s largest city. Students going on the trip will be given the opportunity to receive six credits in two upper-level electives courses: Sociology of Food and Introduction to Community-Based Research.

“I teach a sociology class here at GC that focuses a lot on food production and farming,” Godwin said. “The India trip will allow us to experience firsthand how India’s food production differs from the U.S.”

Sarina Bussey, freshman and marketing and information sciences and technology double major who attended the event, said she is excited about the available opportunities to learn about other cultures and later apply that knowledge to her future.

“I have never been out of the country before, so I am extremely interested in studying abroad,” Bussey said. “I would like to do something with international business one day, so I think it will be beneficial to immerse myself into another country’s culture.”

The study abroad application deadline is Feb. 1, 2017. For more information, explore the International Education Center’s website, contact assistant director of international education Liz Harvey or stop by the International Education Center in the Bone House on S. Clarke St.



Ada Montgomery/ Senior Photographer

James Winchester and Megan Wyatt discuss opportunities for study abroad in summer 2017.

A closer look at two GC shuttle bus drivers

Ben
Lord
@gcsunade

Transportation is key to any modern college town, and in Milledgeville it's common for most people to walk to class, drive or find a ride with a friend.

However, many students are unable to do so or live at a location that is too far from campus. To combat this problem, GC's crew of bus drivers and their fleet of shuttles are ready bright and early each day to transport students to and

from campus free of charge.

Whether it's a rainy day, a bitterly cold morning or a blazing summer afternoon, the friendly bus drivers are ready to shuttle students to their destinations around campus.

Meet Mark Sullivan.

He's a U.S. Army veteran and a 10-year bus driver for the Bobcats. He said driving for GC has been a source of joy in his life because he sees smiling faces every day.

"It's you guys. It always has been," Sullivan said. "If

it wasn't for the students I wouldn't be here. The kids are just so polite and kind."

Sullivan said he is considered an "old-timer," and drives a variety of bus routes. Some days, he works the West Campus route, while at other times he works the Centennial shift.

As students board the bus at each stop on his route, Sullivan greets them with a smile.

However, GC will soon be saying goodbye to Sullivan, as he is retiring

in less than a month.

Alongside Sullivan and the rest of the staff is driver Timmy Mertz. Mertz is a senior management information systems major at GC and has been a shuttle bus driver for the school since September 2015.

Mertz, who works afternoon and night shifts, said he agrees with Sullivan about the friendly nature of the students who ride the shuttle. He said that the people and the work environment are why he enjoys his job so much.

However, he said being a shuttle bus driver comes with a few challenges.

"Being punctual can be a challenge, but I make sure I'm never late for work," Mertz said. "Everything is pretty easy for the most part, except bad traffic or horrible drivers."

GC's bus drivers enjoy a positive reputation on campus because they impact students' daily lives just by being thoughtful. They not only work their regular shifts but also drive for other groups or sports

teams to different locations.

Bryan Sage, freshman and a mass communication major, rides the bus daily to get to and from his apartment at West Campus. Sage said he appreciates how invested the bus drivers are in the students' lives.

"I often see them reaching out and mentoring people," Sage said. "It's a prime example of how much the GC faculty believes in the student body."



Don't Forget About Summer!

When you're registering for fall classes, you can also register for summer courses. Summer is a great time to stay on track to graduate in four years or graduate early by getting ahead. Many courses are offered online, allowing you to attend class from anywhere you are.

When you meet with your Academic Advisor, be sure to ask about summer options.

Registration Opens March 13



Ben Lord/ Staff Photographer

Mark Sullivan (top) and Timmy Mertz (bottom) drive weekday routes.

GC alumnae helps Baldwin Co. eat healthier

Gioia
Brust
@gcsunade

A recent Georgia College graduate is working to bring healthy food to the people of Baldwin County.

Kristina Hyland, a graduate of GC's class of 2016, works with HealthMPowers, a nonprofit organization based in California. They are teaming up with local group Live Healthy Baldwin to bring more nutritious food to Milledgeville.

"We chose Baldwin County because they had something like Live Healthy Baldwin that was promoting living healthy [already]," Hyland said.

Hyland said she plans to bring nutritious food to the elementary and middle school-aged kids of the area.

"We're focusing more on low socioeconomic areas like Baldwin to give them access to healthy foods," Hyland said.

Hyland calls Baldwin County a "food desert," which is a large area whose grocery stores do not carry all the fresh foods people need to maintain a balanced diet. The two organizations are focusing on local convenience stores and other stores that do not

have fresh produce.

"It's so hard to change people's behaviors here, since they're so used to cooking the way their parents cooked," Hyland said.

Hyland said her job as a community representative is to go around local stores and encourage them to send healthy messages through posters, shopping carts and baskets with healthy sayings on them and recipe cards to encourage shoppers to buy and eat healthy foods, all provided by HealthMPowers and Live Healthy Baldwin.

The organizations will also be teaming up to provide food seminars and food tastings to introduce community members to various food options.

"People just don't like vegetables," Hyland said. "So we hope with some simple food testing, they'll be more open to it."

Hyland said that a few convenience stores have already agreed to the changes, including the local Dollar General. Per the agreement, the stores will slowly start incorporating healthier foods in their aisles.

"In the next year, we're hoping to get more stores involved, including the big corporate chains like Walmart and Kroger," Hyland

said.

She said she hopes to have all the fresh supplies in the partner stores by February and to receive the community's feedback through surveys by July.

"We just launched our new social marketing campaign that are on the electronic billboards and traditional billboards," Hyland said.

The two nonprofits also have multiple social media accounts that anyone interested can follow to receive updates.

"I always knew I wanted to do something in the health care field," Hyland said. "And then I found community health here... which is more like preventative medicine."

Kim Thomas, a local resident, said she agrees with the health care initiative.

"I would love to see more fresh food in our stores," Thomas said. "We're definitely lacking healthier options."

James Jiminez, a music education major, said he also thinks it is a great idea.

"As a music ed major, it makes me happy to see the future of America taking the right steps to living healthy lives," Jiminez said.



Gioia Brust/ Staff Photographer

Kristina Hyland graduated from GC in 2016 with a community health degree.

Students fight for West Campus traffic light

Lauren
Nielly
@gcsunade

A group of Georgia College students are working toward the goal of having a traffic light installed at the intersection of West Campus Drive and the U.S 441 Bypass. Last year saw the creation of one of the first petitions for the light.

Freshman Sydney Watts, resident of West Campus at the time, said she felt the need for a traffic light was urgent. She created a petition which caught

the attention of students at Georgia College and people all over the Baldwin County area.

"I actually started the petition for a class assignment, which was to perform an act of social justice," Watts said. "I thought the traffic light would be an adequate attempt, which it definitely ended up being."

Watt's petition accumulated over 14,000 signatures. It included background information about the area and stated why a traffic light was necessary.

In the comments, hundreds

of people shared stories about their individual experiences at the intersection and explained why they thought a traffic light is needed.

Although the petition is currently closed, Watts has begun to see its effects. She said the Georgia Department of Transportation is looking into the matter.

"They are discussing financial aspects of the light, along with meeting with the Milledgeville authorities and residents to see how destructive the area is and

how necessary this light is," Watts said. "They are running traffic reports from the beginning of the school year to see how the incidences increase as the school year starts up."

Other students are also currently working toward getting the light installed. Freshman Nick Flame said he believes a traffic light at the West Campus entrance would not only make the intersection safer, but also help the flow of traffic.

"A majority of the people that live at West Campus are freshmen,

and they are new to driving in Milledgeville," Flame said.

Flame said he has been reaching out to people around the area in order to spread his concern and spark a change.

"The intersection poses a great threat, not only to students but to the entire community," said Mikayla Gallo, a senior who travels to West Campus multiple times a week. "That is something GCSU and the city of Milledgeville should be deeply concerned with."

THIS WEEK AT GC

A calendar of events

Spring Graduation Fair

Wed. Feb. 1 @ 1 p.m.
& Wed. Feb. 2 @ 10 a.m.
Barnes & Noble

Graduating seniors can find out information about their graduation status, graduation regalia and special announcements.



Film: Good Hair

Thurs. Feb. 2 @ 6 p.m.
The Depot

The Black Student Alliance and the Cultural Center will screen the film Good Hair in honor of Black History Month. The film explores the history and cultural significance of African-American women's hair.



GRE Tips & Tricks

Thurs. Feb. 2 @ 3:30 p.m.
Lanier Hall 140

Students interested in attending graduate school will hear a presentation from the Princeton Review on strategies for approaching the GRE.

40th Annual GC Regional Science & Engineering Fair

Fri. Feb. 3 All Day
Centennial Center

Elementary, middle and high school students from 10 counties in central Georgia will present their research. Winners will proceed to compete at the state and international levels.

All Week Long

Habitat for Humanity Canned Food Drive

The Give Center and the Campus Life Office are collecting canned food items for the Harrisburg community in Milledgeville. Collection bins are located in the Give Center in MSU and the Campus Life Office in the Student Activities Center.

For more information, visit frontpage.gcsu.edu.



Date: Jan. 12

Case: A bicycle was reported stolen from a GC dormitory by a student who left it chained outside the dorm over winter break. The worth of the bicycle estimated to be \$100. A colleague of Officer Davis referred him to a separate case in which a bicycle matching the same description of the one stolen was confiscated. The GC student identified the bike as his, and it was returned to him. Four warrants were placed on the individuals believed to have stolen the bike.

Date: Jan. 13

Case: Officer Powell found a GC student lying on an embankment while patrolling the area of Greene St. and Liberty St. Officer Powell approached the student, finding him unresponsive. After conducting a sternum rub, the student woke up and told the officer his name. The student consented to a breath test and registered a .242 BrAC. Dispatch called EMS to the scene, who arrived shortly after to transport the student to Oconee Regional Medical Center. The case was referred to Student Judicial.

Date: Jan. 13

Case: A GC student was arrested in a residence hall for the underage possession of alcohol and public drunkenness. The woman entered the dorm when another student accessed it with a Bobcat I.D. Officer Braumuller received a call concerning the woman stumbling around trying to find her dorm room. When Officer Braumuller made contact with the woman, he realized she thought she was in a different residence hall. He arrested the woman and transported her to the Milledgeville Police Department for detention. The case has been referred to Student Judicial.

Date: Jan. 26

Case: The fire alarm of a GC residence hall sounded at 8:45 p.m. on Jan. 26. Public safety officers responded to the call. When the "all clear" was given, the officers were asked by a community director to accompany her to a room to handle several policy violations. The officers found that a vape, which was in that room, triggered the alarm. Additionally, the officers found four handles of alcohol. Three of the containers were empty and the fourth was half-full. The residents were contacted and informed that they were going to be referred to Student Judicial.



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

works on the fundamentals of bunting a good pitch. The Bobcats start their season at home on Feb. 4 against Albany State University.

Mix of veterans and youth set to take the field

Gabrielle Schwobe
@gcsunade

The Georgia College softball team is set to begin their 2017 season after finishing No. 3 overall in the Peach Belt Conference last season.

Head coach Jamie Grodecki comes into the 2017 season, her seventh season at Georgia College, with a new motto for the team.

“This season we are living by the motto, ‘One’,” said Grodecki. “One at a time, one pitch, one bat, one game.”

This year, Grodecki has recruited six new freshmen to the team, including Sutton Long and Amber Coy, who Grodecki foresees to get playing time early in the season.

“Coach does a phenomenal job of recruiting,” said Danielle Bernstein, an outfielder and senior. “Not only are these girls good players, they are good people.”

The team spent the offseason focused on getting faster, stronger and building trust within each other.

“They are all special, as a team they are unique because they are smaller, more tight knit, and they all get along so well,” said Grodecki.

The team spent the offseason focused on getting faster, stronger and building trust and chemistry with each other. Bernstein acknowledged that her role on the team as an outfielder will also include a leadership role this season.

“This season taking on the leadership role is important, teaching

“They are all special, as a team they are unique because they are smaller, more tight knit, and they all get along so well.”

*Jamie Grodecki,
Head Coach*

them how to play the outfield well, and teaching them communication,” said Bernstein. “That’s one thing I’m

really good at, I’m a loudmouth.”

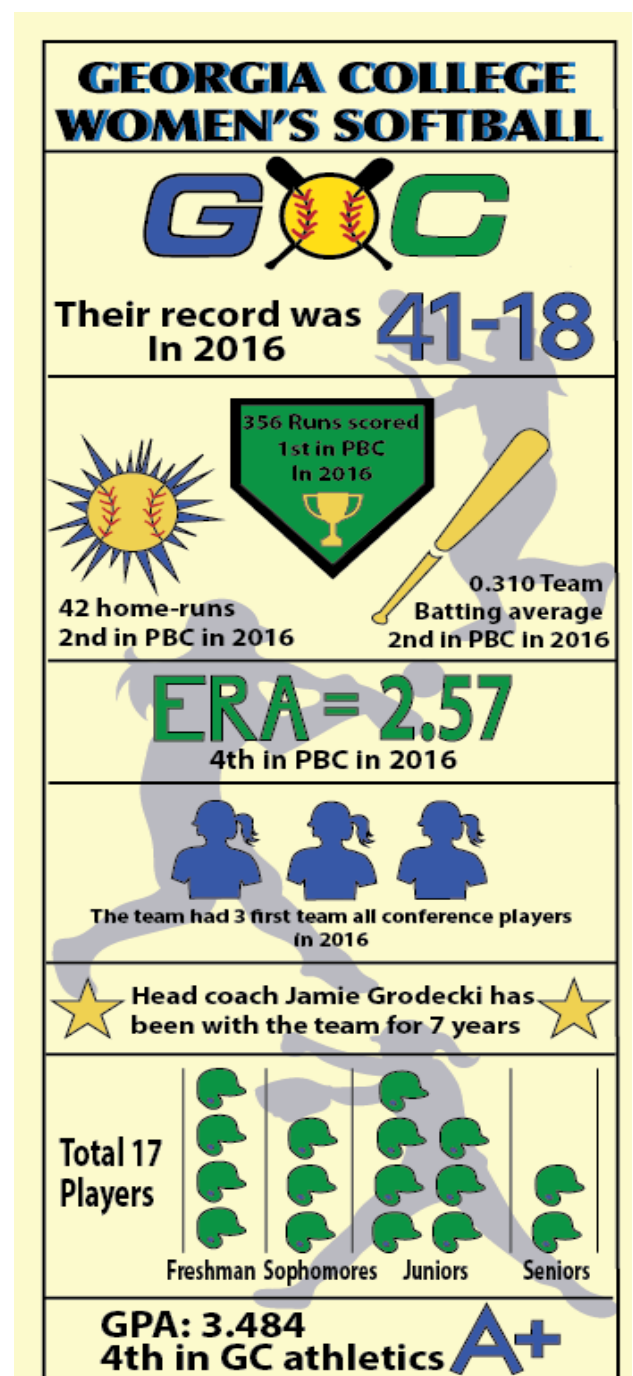
Faith Flanders, a senior, also realized the importance of upperclassman leadership on the freshmen.

“My goal this season is to be a leader for this team, both offensively and defensively,” said Flanders. “I also will be taking on the title of pitcher, which I haven’t done since freshman year.”

Last year, Flanders led the Peach Belt Conference with 55 RBIs and is preparing for success on the mound this year.

Overall, the team goal is to be in the Top 3 or 4 in the conference, which would put them in the postseason.

The Bobcats will kick off their season at home where they will face off for a doubleheader against Albany State University on Feb. 4 at 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. They will follow it up with another doubleheader against Queens University on Feb. 5, with game 1 starting at 4:30 p.m.



Bobcat athletes compete for academic success

Amy
Huang
@gcsunade

Georgia College athletes engage in a friendly competition for academic superiority every year. This past semester, the tennis team posted a GPA of 3.63, the highest among all GC sports teams. Rounding off the top three were men's and women's cross-country, taking second and third, respectively.

"The girl's tennis team have been at the top for the last 10 to 15 years," said head tennis coach Steve Barsby. "It's fun and it's what we are all about."

Trophy recognition for team GPAs only started a few years ago. Now, teams are awarded for the previous semester's GPAs at the following semester's Welcome Back Picnic.

"Cross-country and tennis are usually at the top, but the other sports are always improving," said assistant athletic director Al Weston. "I think every team would love to have a trophy to have."

When tennis beat women's cross-country, members of the cross-country team were shocked.

"Cross-country girls would have the highest GPA, but this is the first year we didn't, so when the results came out we said 'What! What happened!' It's definitely something talked about within all the teams," said Rebecca Winslow, junior and Spanish major.

Athletes are continuously working hard both on and off the courts to be successful in both sports and academics.

"This school as a whole is very competitive academically. That aligns well with what the athletic department focuses on, which is creating student-athletes that can do well for society when they graduate," said Weston.

One such athlete is Macy Polk, a senior chemistry major with the highest GPA on the tennis team.

Polk said that after graduating, tennis would be played as a recreational hobby.

"Personally I put more focus on schoolwork because my goal is to reach medical school. I always have put academics ahead of tennis," said Polk.

Other GC athletes also place strong emphasis on academics over sports.

"School comes first. I know I'm not going to become a professional athlete, so I have to be a professional in

Team GPA Leaders	
1. Women's Tennis	3.63
2. Men's Cross-country	3.57
3. Women's Cross-country	3.54
4. Softball	3.484
5. Soccer	3.482
6. Volleyball	3.38
7. Baseball	3.11
8. Men's Tennis	3.07
9. Golf	2.94
10. Women's Basketball	2.87
11. Men's Basketball	2.80


something after this," said cross-country runner Brian Skoglund, sophomore and physics/math double major.



The academic success of GC's athletic department has been a team effort.

"We typically perform better than the student body in general, which is rare for a athletic department to do. We are very proud of this," said Weston.

SOFTBALL 2.4.2017 WOMEN'S TENNIS 2.3.2017 BASEBALL 2.3.2017 MEN'S TENNIS 2.4.2017 GOLF 2.13.2017

SPRING SWINGS



Sassy Cats finish Top 10 in national competition



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

A group of Sassy Cats dancers preform a halftime routine at a GC basketball game. The team will compete in the PBC Championships in March.

Dallas
Fletcher
@gcsunade

The Sassy Cats dance team finished in the Top 10 in the UDA National Championship, held Jan. 13-15 at the ESPN Wide World of Sports in Orlando, Florida.

"We did not expect it. I only packed one pair of eyelashes, one Powerade and one pair of socks that matched the costume. I had all my stuff and backpack for Disney ready," said Ansley Moore, senior and early childhood education major.

The team competed in the open hip-hop division and brought a very different routine than in years past. The team dressed in fur and red face paint.

"It was an intense dance. It was way different than anything I've ever done or seen before and the judges really, really liked it so that was the good part," said Kamie Hartley, sophomore and special education major.

Teammate Corinne Hulfish, sophomore and management major, agrees.

"For UDA they want stuff that is really hard hitting and almost intimidating and we were pretty scary rolling up in our red face

paint and fur although our routine was simpler this year but it was more of what UDA wanted," Hulfish said.

The Sassy Cats accomplished their main goals of standing out from the other teams and putting Georgia College on the map since they were the only team from Georgia competing.

"The parents of the dance team that took first in our division saw

us passing and said y'all did great and that was such a cool moment," Moore said. "It was so different that so many people noticed it and noticed we were good."

The team will perform at halftime for the rest of the basketball season and will also compete at the Peach Belt Conference Championships in March.

They will bring jazz to the competition, which is a little

different than what they brought to the national competition.

"We are so excited for Peach Belt because last year we took home first. Peach Belt for us is so different than UDA," Hulfish said. "UDA is more intimidating and there are so many amazing teams that have way more resources than we do. For Peach Belt we are put on an even playing field so we're competing against schools that are very similar to Georgia College so it almost feels more rewarding that we are with our peers and we feel more comfortable, so we're looking forward to that."



UP NEXT...

FRIDAY, FEB. 3

Women's Tennis
vs. Brenau
1 p.m.

Baseball
Ohio Valley
tournament begins
6 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 4

Men's Tennis
vs. Morehouse
12 p.m.

Women's Basketball
at North Georgia
1:30 p.m.

Men's Basketball
at North Georgia
3:30 p.m.

Softball
Bobcat Kickoff
Tournament
12:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m.

SONGS, SONNETS, AND STAND-UP

Will
Anderson
@gcsunade

On Jan. 24, Luke Travis, sophomore and theatre major, hosted an artistic platform production called “Muse” at Blackbird Coffee, the first of a monthly series. At the event, performers of all types were given the freedom to express their creative works on stage with complete control and encouragement.

“Muse is a collaborative production of four minute performances of all artists, whether you be a poet, musician, comedian, actor, playwright, whatever you are,” Travis said.

Travis created the concept after witnessing a similar format over winter break, and pitched the idea to Blackbird Coffee owners Iona and Jimmy Holder.

“I wanted to create this platform for different kinds of artists to express themselves because you don’t always get that opportunity as often as you would like,” Travis said.

Travis said that what most inspired him to create the event were the talented people around him that are always creating art.

“I recognize their talent, and I want everyone else to realize how important and impactful their pieces are,”

Travis said.

The night was filled with 15 acts in total, alternating from original works of poetry to stand-up comedy. At the end of the show, Travis asked if any audience members felt brave enough to participate in sharing any form of artistic ability they had with the audience.

“I didn’t realize that this community was sorely lacking the expressionism that should come with the college experience,” said audience member Andy Stanesic, junior and theatre major. “Luke Travis really sought that out and brought it to Blackbird Coffee for everyone to enjoy.”

Allison Esposito, senior and exercise science major, delivered an emotionally-charged solo piece that she wrote and performed.

“I think ‘Muse’ is really important because it’s a safe space for people to express themselves in any way they deem artistic,” Esposito said.

Nick Landon, senior and rhetoric major, rocked the house with his guitar and vocal combo, sending the audience into a frenzy of singalong laughter and fun.

“I think Milledgeville has a lot of very talented people that are artistically

inclined at GC, but the amount of stages and outlets for that artistic ability is abysmal,” Landon said. “So any opportunity for people to come together like this and share their art is sacred.”

The night concluded with a few audience members having the courage to share their own creative works on the spot.

“What’s really special about college is it’s the only time you will be with this many people that are like you,” Landon said. “That’s kind of what this is - being around people who are like you because they are so drastically unlike you.”

Muse is hosted every fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the basement of Blackbird Coffee.



Pierce Mougans/ Staff Photographer

Allison Esposito (above) shares a personal spoken word performance. (Below) Summer McCormack and Alex Billmeyer perform a cover of “Can’t Help Falling in Love.”



BROKEN NOT BEATEN

A night of community and vulnerability with Jordan Lee



Photo courtesy of Avery Kronz

Monica
Klinkmueller
@gcsunade

On Thursday, Jan. 26, Georgia College's Wesley Women's Ministry hosted Jordan Lee, a Christian blogger and writer who travels to college campuses to build communities and connections between women.

After starting out as an Etsy shop owner who specialized in lettering and calligraphy, Jordan Lee transitioned into writing and speaking, ultimately finding her passion while at Indiana University.

"God really challenged me. I think I have a strong voice, and I love people, and He really challenged me to use that. I started blogging not really thinking it was going to be this big thing," Lee said. "I don't call myself a speaker, even though that is what people are calling me. The way I look at it is I am a mouthpiece for the Lord, and I think we all are."

After graduating with a degree in Health Administration, Lee found her passion in connecting with people, sharing

the gospel and building relationships, even though that is not what her college major defines her as.

"I get the lingo, I get the trends, I've lived it, so it's not foreign to me. Yes, you can lead, but you can also lead as a friend and I think our society forgets that because we like to elevate people, but let's elevate God," Lee said. "I want to relate to the girls because I do relate to the girls, not because I am trying to create this relatability. I actually get it; I get what the girls are going through."

Lee started speaking in November 2015 when she spoke at a church in Florida. Soon after, Lee found herself speaking at events in the Indianapolis area, San Diego and Butler University in fall 2016. It was then that Lee realized that she could relate best to high school and college-aged women.

"I think both high school and college ages, those are really big growing periods for girls," Lee said. "I want to empower the girls to disciple each other."

Lee sees college-aged woman as her peers, an age group not far from her own that gives her a special outlook

in connecting and communicating with girls at college campuses across the country.

"You can inspire people all day long, but if you are not helping them break chains, if you are not coming alongside them and saying 'hey, we are going to do this together,' then long-term, you are not doing anything," Lee said. "I don't look at myself as a preacher or even a speaker, but if I can cultivate that community then I call that a win in my book."

A recent addition to Lee's blog is The Sisterhood, a resource for girls to not only learn more about the gospel but also to provide an opportunity to meet and connect with other girls that live near them.

"When you are on a big college campus, it is easy to feel isolated. Though it is not designed to give girls their next best friend, it is designed to give them a place to turn to when they need some resources to help them grow," Lee said. "The intention is to connect people, and it's the same theme among everything: it's building sisterhood."



Jordan Lee (top and above, center) spoke to the women of Georgia College about accepting flaws, being vulnerable and coming together as a supportive community of women.

Bobcats in the kitchen

Amy
Strang
@gcsunade

Comfort in the winter can take different forms: a warm blanket and a good book, a furry friend or a hot cup of coffee. When the weather gets colder, some people seek comfort indoors with their friends or a good movie to escape the dropping temperatures.

College students like Rylee Harris, a junior and sociology major, are familiar with food’s mysterious healing powers. Sometimes after a tough exam or a long day at work, the best solution is to whip up something warm.

“My favorite thing about the cold weather is coming inside after being freezing cold and sitting by a fire with some hot coffee,” said Rylee Harris, a junior and sociology major.

Though winter came a bit late this year, GC students said that has not stopped them from indulging in their favorite winter comfort foods.

Senior and public health major Caylee Wilson said different kinds of soups comfort her most when the temperature begins to drop.

“They are the best way to curl up and keep warm and are super easy to make,” Wilson said.

One of her favorite recipes is taco soup made in a crock pot.

“I love how easy it is to make and it’s so good. It’s warm and I just love making it and then sharing it with my friends,” Wilson said.

Rylee Harris’s favorite recipe, potato soup, also utilizes a crock pot.

“It fills your stomach up quickly and it makes a lot so you have so many leftovers,” Harris said.

For senior and biology major Matthew Brady, homemade grits are his favorite comfort food.

“I made it up on the fly but it’s amazing,” said Brady of his recipe.

GC students said that they discovered their recipes from many different places, but especially from the internet.

“I mainly look on Pinterest for recipes, but lately I have been into watching “Tasty” videos on Facebook,” Harris said. “It’s kind of my guilty pleasure.”

Wilson said she gets a lot of recipes from her family, but she does consult the internet for advice as well.

“One of my favorite things is to get recipes from Pinterest and make my own recipe out of them,” Harris said.

Want to make these students’ comfort foods for yourself? Check out the recipes below.

Crock Pot Potato Soup

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1 lb. ground beef or turkey | Brown hamburger meat |
| 1 can black beans | Spray crock pot |
| 1 can sweet corn | Put browned meat, canned ingredients and |
| 1 can petite tomatoes | taco seasoning in pot |
| 2 cans chicken broth (14 oz) | Cook on high for 4 hours (8 hours low) |
| 1 packet taco seasoning | Add cream cheese and cheddar 1 hour before |
| 1 cream cheese | eating |
| Sharp cheddar | Add salt and pepper before serving |

Homemade Grits

- 2 cups of grits
2 quarts of half and half
1 quart heavy cream
Salt and pepper to taste
- Pour half and half and heavy cream into a pan and bring it to boil
Add grits and stir continuously
Once thickened, add salt and pepper



Crock Pot Taco Soup

- Chop up 3-4 potatoes, 1 onion and 6 strips of cooked bacon
Toss in a crock pot with 2-3 cups of chicken broth and 1 package of shredded cheese
Cook on high for 3-4 hours (6-8 hours on low)
Add chopped up cream cheese one hour before eating



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New interns amp up English department

Gabi Schwobe
@gcsunade

The life of a college student can be hard enough between balancing a rigorous academic schedule, extracurriculars, jobs and a social life. Students can feel like they are being pulled in a million different directions. This balancing act is not for everyone, but two young women in the English department are killing the game.

Emi Exner and Leslie Peterson are seniors and English majors here at Georgia College. Their day-to-day life is hectic. Not only do they have classes to go to every day, but they also work part-time and intern for the creative writing program.

When they aren't writing their own pieces and submitting them to magazines for publication, they are encouraging other English students to do the same.

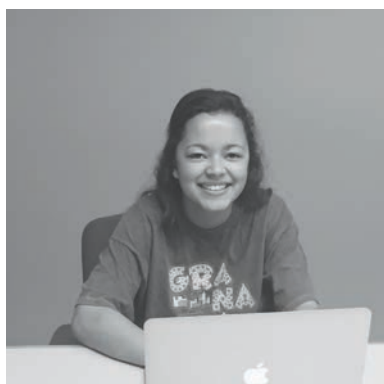
"We are constantly bugging the younger students to submit their work, we've even made a bulletin board to show how and where to submit their writings," Exner said.

Laura Caron, an MFA administrative

assistant, said she is grateful to have them around, especially since they are setting the stage for other interns in the future.

"Emi and Leslie are the first of their kind," Caron said. "They have great ideas and have done a wonderful thing for us. They are setting the stepping-stones for years to come."

They have introduced social media to the creative writing department with hopes of connecting more people to the major. They even took it one step further by creating a radio show.



Emi Exner

"The Black Market Creative Slam radio is our baby," Peterson said. "We came up with the idea, but weren't really planning on being the DJs, but I guess someone had to do it."

Peterson said that anyone can come on and read their work. It does not matter the genre -- poetry, fiction, nonfiction, even parts of screenplays. Listeners can tune in to WGUR 95.3 Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m.

The two girls said they have spent a lot of time together starting up this intern program, which means they have come to

know a lot about each other's writing.

"Leslie is all poetry and fiction. Her work is so mysterious, but yet you love it. It almost reminds me of Alice and Wonderland," Exner said.

"The best way to describe Emi's writing is earthy, absolutely no romance," Peterson said. "She's not afraid to talk about situations that matter, like race and feminism."

They both said they are striving for a future in writing. To them, all of this hard work as interns is rewarding because they are constantly working towards this long-term goal.

Peterson said she hopes to continue what she does now: writing and editing and getting her work published. Exner said she would like to start out editing, but her main goal is to become a screenwriter.

For the rest of the semester, they said they plan to continue to get more people involved with writing and to set up a solid pattern for the new interns to know exactly where to pick up in the fall to continue their legacy.

Gabi Schwobe/ Staff Photographer



Leslie Peterson

TUESDAY, FEB. 14
1 P.M. - PAWS ON A CAUSE
7 P.M. - SGA PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15
6 P.M. - RESIDENCE HALL
SPIRIT BOARD JUDGING
8 P.M. - PAINT U

THURSDAY, FEB. 16
6 - 10 P.M. - LASER TAG

FRIDAY, FEB. 17
7 P.M. - HOMECOMING CONCERT

SATURDAY, FEB. 18
8:30 A.M. - BOBCAT RAMBLE
9 A.M. - TENT CITY OPENS
11 A.M. - HOMECOMING PARADE
2 P.M. - CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
3:30 P.M. - WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
VS. CLAYTON STATE
5:30 P.M. - MEN'S BASKETBALL
VS. CLAYTON STATE

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Q: If a tornado touched down, what would be the first thing you would save?

Compiled by Wellsley Kesel



“My leftover Domino’s pizza, hands down.”
- Cecelia Christian, junior



“I would save the necklace my brother got for me when I was ten years old. You can replace electronics, but not meaningful gifts!”
- Maddie Drives, freshman



“I would definitely save my phone, so if I got lost I could call someone. I would also use it to let my family know I was safe.”
- RJ Gardner, sophomore



“The one thing I would save would have to be my laptop. My whole life is on there and I would be lost without it.”
- Anne Marie Dolgetta sophomore

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A note from the section editor

In this time in our history, it has never been more important to have a platform for voicing opinions, a space to wail at injustice, an area for producing a ripple of change with words. And so I am proud to reintroduce the editorial section. It never really went away, but this is the official rebirth. If you have thoughts on something that you would like published, then send us your editorials, poetry, short stories, cartoons - we'll take it all. We are thrilled to have a space to share them. Please send all articles to thegcsucolonnade@gmail.com.

A journalist's promise

Emily
McClure,
News Editor

During the customary name-year-major introductions at a recent campus event, another student told me that my career as a journalist is about to get a lot harder. Without hesitation, I told her that I welcome the challenge and am going to make sure that journalism remains healthy and vibrant during the next four years.

The recent social media crackdown on various government agencies and President Trump's obsession with the media have made me realize that my career will indeed be difficult in the coming years. However, the circumstances that make this job difficult also make it that much more important.

We live in a dangerous post-truth era. Fake news circulates online, spreading false facts on which some people have based taking deadly action.

In a time when the White House press secretary counters the media's evidence with "alternative facts," the need for credible, qualified journalists is becoming increasingly urgent. Average citizens, no longer sure what information they can trust, need to be able to turn to respectable publications and believe that they uphold

a certain standard of accuracy.

The fact that President Trump's administration considers journalists to be a threat means that we're doing our job right. These days, our profession can almost measure how well we're performing our duties by how angrily Trump tweets about us.

We must remember that we are members of the only profession specifically protected by the Constitution's Bill of Rights, which means we are not allowed to get lazy. We cannot relax our standards of reporting or get discouraged by the opposition.

I take my job as The Colonnade's news editor extremely seriously.

As a small paper with hyper-local focus, most of our stories focus on interesting campus events and GC's faculty and student success stories. But every once in awhile, we at the news desk have the opportunity to dig deeper and pursue investigative stories that deal with controversial subjects.

In both cases, however, we know the equal importance of in-depth reporting, verification of facts, and reliable sources.



As a journalist, I care a great deal about everything that goes on around me. I also believe that our readers care, and that the malice toward the media expressed by the most powerful person in our nation is not the case in the hearts and minds of America's average citizens.

This is my promise to the public I serve: I will not stop.

I will not stop asking questions. I will not stop following the money and paper trails. I will not stop holding those in power accountable for what happens on their watch.

I am proud to call myself a journalist, and I'm not afraid to investigate the messy subjects. I'm going to keep on doing what I do, because the more I'm challenged, the better I understand how to fight for the truth.

WE'RE LISTENING:

The Colonnade is seeking editorials, letters to the editors, creative writing pieces, cartoons and any other shouts of opinion that you may want heard. Please send to thegcsucolonnade@gmail.com.



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